Federal Communications Commission (FCC) 445 Twelfth Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: TRS Fund—Drastic VRS Rate Cuts INSPECTED

Dear Chairman Martin.

JUN 1 2 2007

Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was appalled to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my work and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,	si .	
Signature	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Printed Name Address City State Zip Email	FERMAN and ELEANOR RITCHEY (Both 1058 ENID Mtw., Rd Stx Mile Run PA 16679 Ferman-2007@ Comcastenet	Deaf)

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Signature

Robert & Eileen Clark

Printed Name Address City State Zip

Email

Robert & Elleen Clark 8141 W. Worwich Ave Greenfield, Wisconsin 53220-2212

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Sincerely,

Signature

Printed Name
Address
City
State
Zip
Email

Sincerely,

Randall B. Firlow

Randall B. Firlow

39405, #E203

West Valley City

84123

Fr fur low @ MSN.com

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Sincerely,	\
Signature	Rosyn Derlin
Printed Name Address City State Zip	Pohyn Furlow 1580/W. 39405. #F203 West Valley Cody Utah
* Email	trfurlow) @ MSN, com

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Signature

MARY WilbANKS

Printed Name

Address

City

State

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4 June 2007

FCC 445 Twelfth St SW Washington DC 20554 RECEN ... & INSPECTED

JUN 1 2 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Subj: FOR VRS Rate Reduction

Dear Sir:

As a Board member of a private not for profit community services center for the deaf, I support the reduction of the VRS interpreting rate.

Rationale. The VRS corporations raid the extremely limited pool of interpreters to work for the VRS centers in cities with communication centers. These long serving centers are typically non-profits offering wide ranging services for the deaf, hard of hearing and deaf blind on extremely limited budgets. The VRS centers offer interpreter pay rates drastically higher than most community service centers can afford. The new VRS Centers recruit interpreters often developed and trained by the older service organizations. Interpreters naturally go with the money leaving fewer interpreters for the non-wealthy, non-cable, non-high speed internet subscribing individuals who are deaf.

From the outset, this entire program borders on discrimination because only those individuals with the means to subscribe to high speed internet can benefit from this government largesse. The better approach would be to share at least some of the funding with the communication centers that have paid the dues through service.

Thank you for considering this letter.

Sincerely,

Paul T. Webb

P.O. Box 277

BRUNSWICK TN 88014

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Sincerely,

Signature

Printed Name

Address

City

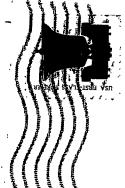
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